

## REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for pointing out the informality in claims 26 and 28 wherein the phrase “does not extend continuously for two or more laps” could possibly have been open to multiple interpretations. Applicants have amended “does not extend continuously for two or more laps” to “does not extend continuously for two laps” as suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner now has rejected the claims as follows: Claims 28 and 41 were rejected as being obvious over Calapp in view of JP 62-87332. Claims 26-28, 32-33, 37, 41, 46 and 50 were rejected as being obvious over WO 98/32589 in view of Nelson. Claims 28, 32, 37-38 and 40-43 were rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp further in view of JP 62-87332. Claim 34 was rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp and further in view of JP 62-87332 and Johnson. Claims 34-36, 47-49 were rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp and further in view of JP 62-87332 and Tunis. Claim 39 was rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp and further in view of JP 62-87332 and WO 98/30374. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In the previous Action of March 9, 2004, the claims were rejected over the prior art as follows: Claims 28, 30 and 41 were rejected as being anticipated by Calapp. Claims 26-33, 37 and 41 were rejected as being obvious over WO 98/32589 in view of Nelson. Claims 28, 30-32, 37-38 and 40-43 were rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp. Claim 34 was rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp and further in view of Johnson. Claims 34-36 were rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp and further in view of Tunis. Claim 39 was rejected as being obvious over Holloway in view of Calapp and further in view of WO 98/30374.<sup>1</sup>

In the Amendment of April 2, 2004, Applicants amended claims 26 and 28 to recite “the substrate is arranged at the surface of the inner mold such that the reinforcing fiber does *not*

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<sup>1</sup> Please note the rejections were incorrectly stated in the Amendment of April 2, 2004, though appropriately addressed.

extend continuously for two or more laps of a circumference of the inner mold” (emphasis added) and argued that all of the cited prior art references relate to filament winding in which the reinforcing fiber of the substrate must extend for two or more laps of the circumference of the hollow inner mold.

In order to respond to the claim amendments and argument of Applicants in the Amendment of April 2, 2004, in the present Action the Examiner combined the previously cited references with **JP 62-87332**, relying on JP 62-87332 to fill the gaps in the other cited prior art references—in particular, the gap regarding the failure to teach or suggest the limitation “the reinforcing fiber does not extend continuously for two laps of a circumference of the inner mold” of claims 26 and 28. The Examiner *incorrectly* believes that JP 62-87332 fills this gap in the other cited references and states on page 3, lines 6-7 from the bottom of the Action that “JP 62-87332 teaches that in a filament winding process it is an equivalent alternative to wind a single or several number of resin impregnated fiber bundles (see Abstract).”

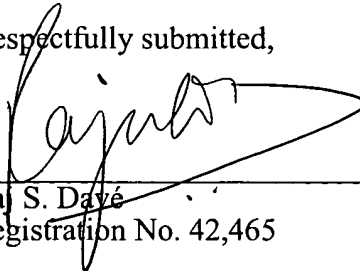
JP 62-87332 discloses that one could wind one or more resin impregnated fiber bundles during filament winding, *not* that one could wind one or more laps of a circumference of the inner mold. For example, see Example 1 of JP 62-87332, wherein two bundles each having 6,000 carbon filaments for filament winding were used to form *twelve* laps of filament winding. In short, the Examiner reading of JP 62-87332 is totally incorrect. JP 62-87332 does *not* fill the gaps in the other cited prior art references—in particular, the gap regarding the failure of the prior art references to teach or suggest the limitation “the reinforcing fiber does not extend continuously for two laps of a circumference of the inner mold” in claims 26 and 28.

In light of the above, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **360842007500**. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Raj S. Dave  
Registration No. 42,465

Morrison & Foerster LLP  
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1888  
Telephone: (202) 887-1500  
Facsimile: (202) 887-0763